

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

1. (Currently Amended) A coupling ~~for detachably coupling first and second devices~~ comprising:

a first coupling part on ~~the~~ a first device and a second coupling part on ~~the~~ a second device, the second device detachably coupling to the first device, with the first coupling part having a circumferential coupling groove defined by radial interior and exterior walls and ending in a free end face facing in the opposite direction of the first device, and the second coupling part including first and second discs each having an aperture, wherein at least a portion of the first disc overlaps at least a portion of the second disc; and

first and second coupling collars designed around the apertures of the first and second discs, respectively, and extending mainly in a cross direction of each respective disc,

wherein the second coupling collar extends through the aperture of the first disc in the same direction as the first coupling collar, and the two coupling collars of the second coupling part extend into and engage the circumferential coupling groove of the first coupling part ~~when the devices are operably connected to each other.~~
2. (Original) The coupling according to claim 1, wherein the radial exterior wall of the coupling groove includes a circumferential projection facing radially inwards and defining an offset.

3. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the free end face of the coupling groove abuts against the first disc when the devices are operably connected to each other.

4. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 1, wherein the radial exterior wall of the coupling groove is longer than the radial interior wall of the coupling groove when viewed in cross section.

5. (Withdrawn) The coupling according to claim 1, wherein the first coupling collar is perforated by a number of uniformly distributed windows, the second coupling collar is divided into a number of elastic fingers that completely or partly extend into or through each window, the free end of each finger is designed with a hook facing radially outwards, and the hooks abut against an offset on the radial exterior wall in the coupling groove of the first coupling part when the devices are coupled.

6. (Withdrawn) The coupling according to claim 5, wherein free end faces of the hooks have an inclination facing obliquely outwards, the inside face of each window of the coupling collar of the first disc facing the hooks has a corresponding inclination, and that the two discs are located at a distance from each other when the devices are coupled.

7. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 1, wherein the first and second coupling collars are arranged to be pressed together between the radial interior wall and exterior wall of the first coupling part when the devices are operably connected to each other.

8. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 7, wherein a radial inside face of the first coupling collar is conic converging in the direction opposite the first disc.

9. (Withdrawn) The coupling according to claim 7, wherein the free end of the first coupling collar is designed with a hook facing radially outwards and engaging with an offset of the coupling groove when the devices are coupled.

10. (Withdrawn) The coupling according to claim 9, wherein the offset of the coupling groove is located at a greater distal distance than the free end face on its radial interior wall.

11. (Original) The coupling according to claim 7, wherein the two discs are pivotally connected to each other by a hinge.

12. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 11, wherein the hinge comprises at least two pins each extending from a respective bracket on the second disc, at least two slots extending inward of the periphery of the first disc and for respectively accommodating the brackets, at least two elevations inclining outward on the first disc, and bearing bushes for journaling of the pins.

13. (Original) The coupling according to claim 11, wherein the hinge is an integral hinge.

14. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 7, wherein the first disc is designed with a guide collar, with the guide collar together with the first coupling collar defining a guide groove which accommodates the radial exterior wall of the first coupling part when the devices are operably connected to each other.

15. (Original) The coupling according to claim 7, wherein the first disc has a greater diameter than the second disc.

16. (Original) The coupling according to claim 7, wherein the first disc is made of a relatively flexible material whereas the second disc is made of a more rigid material.

17. (Original) The coupling according to claim 7, wherein at least the second disc is reinforced with at least one circumferential reinforcing rib.

18. (Original) The coupling according to claim 7, wherein the first disc is made of a transparent material.

19. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 1, which further comprises locking means for locking the first and the second discs together when the devices are operably connected to each other.

20. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 19, wherein the locking means comprises a cut-out section in the first disc and a clip or a hook mounted on the second disc to clip around at least a part of the edge of the cut-out section of the first disc for locking the discs together when the devices are operably connected to each other.

21. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 19, wherein the locking means comprises a cut-out section in the first disc, a dimple arranged substantially in the area along the edge of the cut-out section and a bead on the second disc for locking engagement with the dimple when the devices are operably connected to each other.

22. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 19, wherein the locking means comprises a grasping section on the first disc, the grasping section having a recess facing the second disc and the second disc having a tongue for engaging the recess.

23. (Original) The coupling according to claim 22, wherein the grasping section has a corrugated surface.

24. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 1, wherein the first disc has a first section extending radially outwards from its aperture in a direction mainly perpendicular to the axis of the aperture, and a conic second section extending radially outwards of and continuous with the first section.

25. (Original) The coupling according to claim 1, wherein the second disc extends conically outwards from its aperture.

26. (Original) The coupling according to claim 1, wherein the first coupling part is an implant for implantation around a stoma of an animal or human body.

27. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 26, wherein the second coupling part is placed inside a pouch for coupling with the implant with the coupling collars extending out through an aperture in the pouch.

28. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 27, wherein an inside of an edge section along the aperture of the pouch is closely joined with an outer side of a radial first section of the first disc.

29. (Currently Amended) A method for application of a coupling according to claim 1 comprising joining the two discs of the second coupling part, placing the second coupling part inside a pouch the second device, and joining the inside of an area around an aperture of the pouch second device with and fastened to the first disc with the coupling collars extending out through the aperture of the pouch second device, ~~wherein the second device is operably connected to the pouch~~.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29 further comprising pushing the two coupling collars of the second coupling part together into the coupling groove of the first coupling part.

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, placing the radial exterior wall of the first coupling part in a guide groove in the first disc of the second coupling part while the second coupling part is in an opened position, and thereafter positioning the second coupling part in a closed position, wherein the radial exterior wall forms the radial outer definition of the coupling groove.

32. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, which further comprises uncoupling the coupling parts by releasing an engagement between the two coupling parts by manipulation of the first disc.

33. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 32, which further comprises releasing the engagement between the two coupling parts by distally displacing the first disc.

34. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 32, which further comprises releasing the engagement between the two coupling parts by affecting the first disc with radially opposite compressive forces in peripheral areas.

35. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 29 ~~further comprising~~ forming, wherein the second device is an ostomy pouch.

36. (Previously Presented) A method for application of the coupling according to claim 1 comprising implanting the first coupling part around a stoma, wherein the first coupling part is in the form of an annular implant having a projecting section with the coupling

groove, and coupling an ostomy pouch to the implant by pushing the two coupling collars of the second coupling part into the coupling groove of the first coupling part.

37. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 36, which further comprises releasing an engagement between the two coupling parts by manipulation of the first disc.

38. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 36, which further comprises releasing an engagement between the two coupling parts by manipulation of a locking means for disengaging the first and the second disc.

39. (Currently Amended) A coupling for ~~detachably coupling first and second deviees~~ comprising:

a first coupling part on the first device and a second coupling part on the second device, the second device detachably coupling to the first device, with the first coupling part having a circumferential coupling groove defined by radial interior and exterior walls and ending in a free end face facing in the opposite direction of the first device, and the second coupling part including first and second discs each having an aperture;

a pouch, wherein at least a portion of the pouch is positioned between the first and second disc; and

first and second coupling collars designed around the apertures of the first and second discs, respectively, and extending mainly in a cross direction of each respective disc,

wherein the second coupling collar extends through the aperture of the first disc in the same direction as the first coupling collar, and the two coupling collars of the second coupling part extend into and engage the circumferential coupling groove of the first coupling part ~~when the devices are operably connected to each other.~~

40. (Currently Amended) A coupling for ~~detachably coupling first and second~~
devices comprising:

a first coupling part on the first device and a second coupling part on the second device,
the second device detachably coupling to the first device, with the first coupling part having a
circumferential coupling groove defined by radial interior and exterior walls and ending in a free
end face facing in the opposite direction of the first device, and the second coupling part
including first and second discs each having an aperture, wherein the two discs are pivotally
connected to each other by a hinge; and

first and second coupling collars designed around the apertures of the first and second
discs, respectively, and extending mainly in a cross direction of each respective disc,

wherein the first and second coupling collars are arranged to be pressed together between
the radial interior wall and exterior wall of the first coupling part when the devices are operably
connected to each other, and wherein the second coupling collar extends through the aperture of
the first disc in the same direction as the first coupling collar, and the two coupling collars of the
second coupling part extend into and engage the circumferential coupling groove of the first
coupling part ~~when the devices are operably connected to each other~~.

41. (Currently Amended) A coupling for ~~detachably coupling first and second~~
devices comprising:

a first coupling part on the first device and a second coupling part on the second device,
the second device detachably coupling to the first device, with the first coupling part having a
circumferential coupling groove defined by radial interior and exterior walls and ending in a free

end face facing in the opposite direction of the first device, and the second coupling part including first and second discs each having an aperture;

locking means for locking the first and the second discs together; and

first and second coupling collars designed around the apertures of the first and second discs, respectively, and extending mainly in a cross direction of each respective disc,

wherein the second coupling collar extends through the aperture of the first disc in the same direction as the first coupling collar, and the two coupling collars of the second coupling part extend into and engage the circumferential coupling groove of the first coupling part ~~when the devices are operably connected to each other.~~

42. (Currently Amended) A coupling ~~for detachably coupling first and second~~ devices comprising:

a first coupling part on the first device and a second coupling part on the second device, ~~the second device detachably coupling to the first device~~, with the first coupling part having a circumferential coupling groove defined by radial interior and exterior walls and ending in a free end face facing in the opposite direction of the first device, and the second coupling part including first and second discs each having an aperture, wherein the second disc extends conically outwards from its aperture; and

first and second coupling collars designed around the apertures of the first and second discs, respectively, and extending mainly in a cross direction of each respective disc,

wherein the second coupling collar extends through the aperture of the first disc in the same direction as the first coupling collar, and the two coupling collars of the second coupling

part extend into and engage the circumferential coupling groove of the first coupling part ~~when the devices are operably connected to each other.~~

43. (Currently Amended) A coupling ~~for detachably coupling first and second~~ devices comprising:

a first coupling part on the first device and a second coupling part on the second device, ~~the second device detachably coupling to the first device~~, with the first coupling part having a circumferential coupling groove defined by radial interior and exterior walls and ending in a free end face facing in the opposite direction of the first device, and the second coupling part including first and second discs each having an aperture; and

first and second coupling collars designed around the apertures of the first and second discs, respectively, and extending mainly in a cross direction of each respective disc,

wherein the first and second disc each have portions which extend radially outward from the first and second coupling collars, respectively, and

wherein the second coupling collar extends through the aperture of the first disc in the same direction as the first coupling collar, and the two coupling collars of the second coupling part extend into and engage the circumferential coupling groove of the first coupling part ~~when the devices are operably connected to each other.~~

44. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to claim 43, wherein the first disc has an axis, a first section extending radially outwards from its aperture in a direction mainly perpendicular to the axis, and a conic second section extending radially outwards of and continuous with the first section.

45. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 43, wherein the second disc extends conically outwards from the aperture of the second disc.

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